WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ADVISORY

Governor Doyle to be awarded medal by National Guard Association of the United States

The National Guard Association of the United States will award Wisconsin Gov. Jim Doyle with the prestigious Charles Dick Medal of Merit at a ceremony at the state Capitol today [Jan. 7]. The national award recognizes the contributions of elected officials on behalf of the National Guard. Doyle earned the honor because of his strong advocacy of the National Guard.

"Governor Doyle clearly recognizes the National Guard's important role in the security of the State of Wisconsin and our Nation, and led numerous successful efforts to further strengthen the Wisconsin National Guard through legislative initiatives and by making the Guard a priority in his administration," according to the award citation. The award will be presented by Maj. Gen. Al Wilkening, who nominated Doyle for the medal.

"As the Wisconsin National Guard's commander-in-chief, Governor Doyle represents the finest in leadership, and his steadfast support of the Wisconsin Guard's soldiers and airmen make him an exceptionally worthy recipient of this very high national honor," Wilkening said.

The Charles Dick Medal of Merit was established in 1988 to recognize extraordinary long-term support of the National Guard by a state legislator, governor or member of congress and is among the highest award bestowed by National Guard Association of the United States.

The medal is named for Maj. Gen. Charles Dick, president of the National Guard Association from 1902 to 1909, and the Congressman and later U.S. Senator responsible for the Dick Acts of 1903 and 1908 that established the foundation of the modern National Guard.

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NOTE: Governor Doyle will receive the Charles Dick Medal following a promotion ceremony for three general officers of the National Guard. Brig. Gens. Steven E. Foster, James A. Krueck, and Bruce D. Schrimpf will be ceremonially pinned with the one-star rank of brigadier general by Gov. Doyle, who is commander-in-chief of the Wisconsin National Guard.

The ceremonies will be held in the Senate Chamber of the State Capitol at 2:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 7. News media are welcome to cover both the promotion ceremony and the Governor's award of the Charles Dick Medal.